

HA-1095

c. 1901

LAWDER-WILLIS HOUSE
Havre de Grace, Md.

This stylish four bay frame, double house with a Mansard roof was built with lumber from a house that stood on the southeast corner of S. Union Ave. and Congress Ave., where the Methodist Church is today. Architecturally the house is interesting as a vernacular blend of Second Empire, Queen Anne and Stick Style. The mansard roof is reminiscent of the Empire style; the dormers, the Stick style and the different building materials show the influence of the Queen Anne style.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1310955704

HA-1095

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Lawder - Willis House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

450/452 Congress Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Helen C. Lawder

-#450

Jon Willis

-#452

301-939-2005

939-2891

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

450/452 Congress Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21078

zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

761

924

Folio #:

316

899

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-1095

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

450 and 452 Congress Avenue is a detached double house located between Lodge Alley on the east and a stone church on the west. The house, two stories with a Mansard roof on an above-grade basement, has a four-bay facade facing north. A two-story addition on the rear with a one-story addition attached to it gives the structure a T-shape plan. Narrow weather boards cover the house, which is painted white with green trim. Separating the first and second stories is a wide band of imbricated shingles similar in design to those that cover the roof and dormer windows. The dwelling is built of lumber from a house that stood where the Methodist Church on S. Union Avenue stands now.

A four-bay verandah with a tin, hip roof covers most of the first floor facade (north elevation). The porch roof, supported by slender chamfered and turned posts, has a bracketed cornice; between the brackets is a band of open spindle work supported in turn by scroll work members.

Windows are spaced uniformly on the facade and Mansard. The two large first floor facade windows have one-over-one light, double sash and louvered shutters. On the second floor, the windows are smaller than those on the first and have six-over-six lights. Each of the second floor windows is located directly beneath a pair of scrolled brackets. The brackets are located on a fascia board which has an alternating design of raised circles and small rectangular panels. The panels are located directly above the windows and thus serve to emphasize them.

The roof dormers have pedimented gables, curved enframements, and stick style horizontal and vertical crosspieces within the gables. The windows contain four-over-four light double-hung sash. The gables are covered with the same shingles as the main roof. The rear (south elevation) dormers are not pedimented. A two-story bay joins the house in the middle of the east and west elevations. The bay has most of the same detail as the rest of the house: bracketed cornice, broad band of imbricated shingles between the first and second floor, and one-over-one windows with louvered shutters, and windows being narrower than those on the facade. The raised circles in the fascia board are not repeated although the rectangular panels and bracket placements are.

The entrance doors are contained in the two central bays of the facade. They are three-panel doors consisting of one glass panel in the upper half and two panels with deep molding in the lower half.

The main block has a Mansard roof with wood shingles, painted green, and a deeply molded bracketed cornice with a wide overhang. The cornice extends across the facade and follows the line of the roof along the flanks including the bays and across the rear. On the two-story wing is an asphalt covered gable roof with the ridge running north to south; the one-story wing attached to it has a sloping shed roof of tin with asphalt shingles on the lower slope.

(continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

NA-1095

PERIOD

☐ PREHISTORIC
☐ 1400-1499
☐ 1500-1599
☐ 1600-1699
☐ 1700-1799
☐ 1800-1899
☒ 1900-

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
☐ AGRICULTURE
☒ ARCHITECTURE
☐ ART
☐ COMMERCE
☐ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☒ COMMUNITY PLANNING
☐ CONSERVATION
☐ ECONOMICS
☐ EDUCATION
☐ ENGINEERING
☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
☐ INDUSTRY
☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
☐ LAW
☐ LITERATURE
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSIC
☐ PHILOSOPHY
☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION
☐ SCIENCE
☐ SCULPTURE
☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ THEATER
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1901**BUILDER/ARCHITECT****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This stylish 4-bay frame, double house with a Mansard roof was built in 1901 with lumber from a house that stood on the southeast corner of S. Union Avenue and Congress Avenue, where the Methodist Church is today. Architecturally the house is interesting as a vanacular blend of Second Empire, Queen Anne and Stick Style. The Mansard roof is reminiscent of the Empire Style, the dormers, the Stick Style and the different building materials show the influence of the Queen Anne style.

For community planning the house is a very important architectural element in the 400 block of Congress Avenue forming a visual connection with the Silverstein Mansion to the east of it, the granite Methodist Church on the west and the Cobourn House across the street. Congress Avenue is important to the history of the town for several reasons. After the town was laid out c. 1781 by Robert Young Stokes, Congress Avenue was chosen as the site of the market place and the Episcopal Church was financed by lottery in 1809. The Hauducoeur map shows the Avenues, Congress and Union, to be 132' wide while the other streets are 70' wide. Recently the city has put in a mini-park overlooking the Susquehanna River at the east and the Chesapeake Bay at the foot of Congress Street, two blocks from the property discussed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HA-1095

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Land Records HD 23 60
 Hauducoeur Map - C.P. Hauducoeur, Engineer, 1799.
 A proposed plan of the town of Havre de Grace
 Meigs, Cornelia - A History of St. Johns Church, 1809-1959
 The Democratic Ledger, 1959

Interview with Mrs. Helen
 Lawder, August 7, 1976

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marion Morton - Architectural Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

September, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

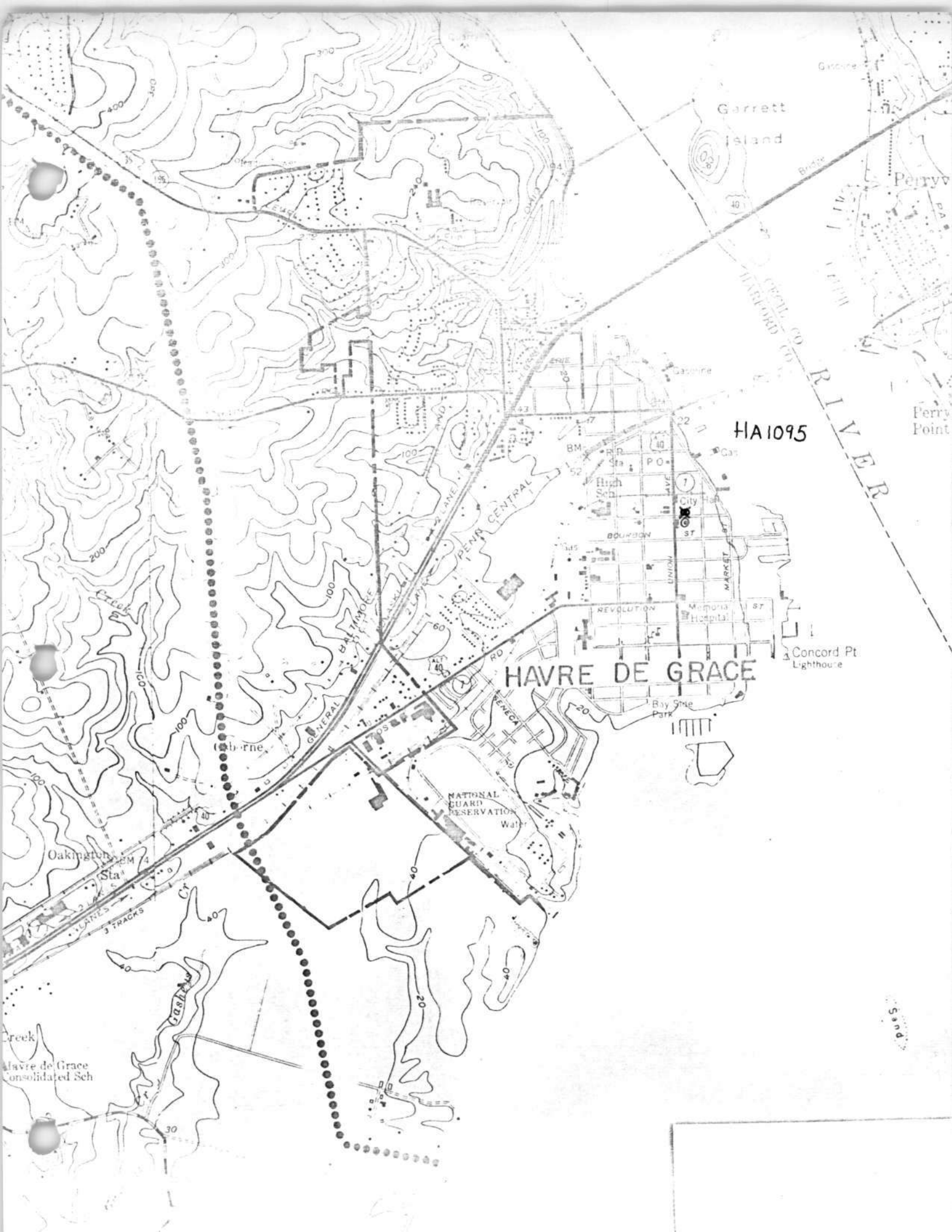
- 1095 LAWDER-WILLIS HOUSE Description (Cont'd)

The one-story shed addition on the rear illustrates the fact that the house is built of old materials. It has three-over-six light, pegged, double-hung windows and a vertical board door with iron strap hinge.

Two brick chimneys rise from inside the rear wall, main block.

On the interior the two houses have identical floor plans consisting of side hall with stairs at the end and two rooms opening off of it. Behind the two main rooms, in the addition, are the kitchen with shed behind it. The staircase located on the inside wall has turned balusters and a square carved oak newel post. The interior of #450 has been altered while #452 retains many of its original features including a slate fire-mantle with marble finish, round-arched opening and cartouche on the south wall of the dining room and sliding double doors in both the living room doorways.

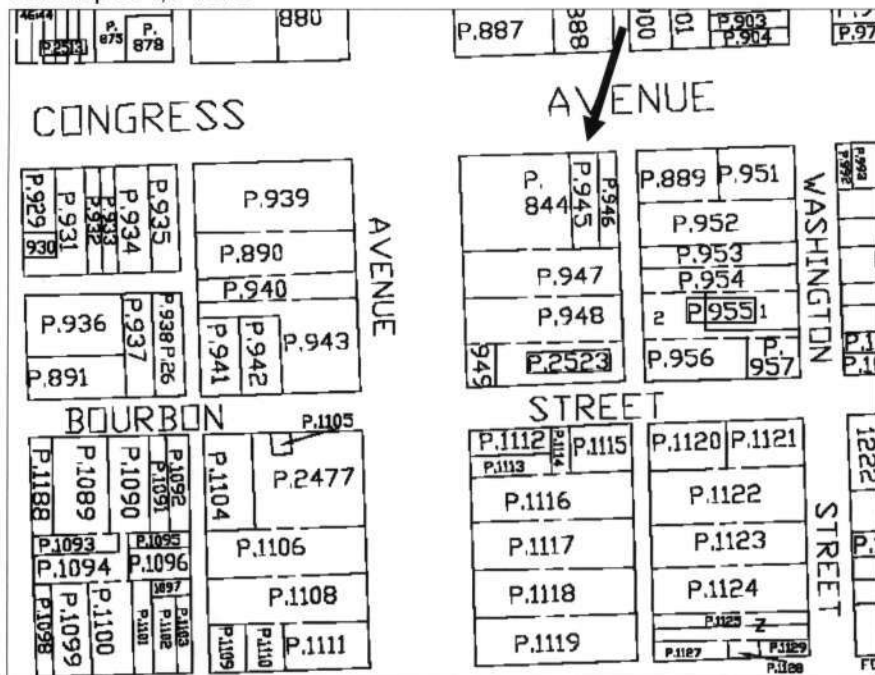
The land around the house is well-planted with shrubs and trees on the front and sides and gardens to the rear. There are no outbuildings.



HA1095

HAVRE DE GRACE

Havre de Grace quad





LAWDER-WILLIS HOUSE HA-1095
450/452 Congress Ave. Havre de Grace
Marion Morton , Sept, 1976
northeast elevation

h
E



Havre de Grace Historic District

Harford County, Maryland

Wayne L. Nield II

July, 1980

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis

452 Congress St., NW elevation of house

9/63



Havre De Grace
Harford County, Maryland
Marion Morton, 1976
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Lauder-Willis House

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